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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,114	12/28/2000	Galen C. Hunt	MS1-523US	8218

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EXAMINER

WILLETT, STEPHAN F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2141

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/752,114

Applicant(s)

HUNT, GALEN C.

Examiner

Stephan F Willett

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-27 and 31-47 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-14, 24-27, 31-47, drawn to maintaining session data between two computers, are classified in class 709, subclass 227.
 - II. Claims 15-23, drawn to storing network session data on remote computers, are classified in class 709, subclass 223.
 - III. Claims 28-30, drawn to organizing multiple requests' session data in a network, are classified in class 709, subclass 228.
2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because:

The claims in Group I involve steps to establish and maintain session data, while the claims in Group II specifically involve storing network session data on multiple remote computers, which is classified in a different class from Group I and the claims in Group III involve organizing multiple requests' session data in a network which is classified in a different subclass from Group I and II.
3. Inventions I, II and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention I has separate utility such as to maintain a current session. In the instant case, invention II has separate utility such as to store session data

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for subsequent requests. In the instant case, invention III has separate utility such as to organize multiple requests' session data. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the searches required for Group I is not required for Groups II or III, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

6. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

7. Applicant's election with traverse of claims 28-30 by Lewis Lee by telephone on April 6, 2004 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U. S.C. 102(e) that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bayeh et al. with Patent Number 6,098,093.
3. Regarding claim(s) 28, Bayeh teaches network components to route requests and replies to endpoints, col. 8, lines 51-54. Bayeh teaches wherein a reply contains state information pertaining to a second endpoint, col. 10-11, lines 67-69 as a "session object", col. 4, lines 4-8. Bayeh teaches the network configured to maintain state information as "session pools" and reassociate the state information with subsequent requests between the two endpoints, col. 11, lines 3-8.
4. Regarding claim(s) 29, Bayeh teaches a network component that stores the state information as "session server", col. 9, lines 2-9.
5. Regarding claim(s) 30, Bayeh teaches network components continually route state information among themselves to preserve state information, col. 11, lines 62-67 and col. 12-14, lines 1-67, 1-40, inclusively.

Conclusion

6. Prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure is disclosed in the Notice of References Cited. A close review of the references is suggested. A close review of the Courts reference with Patent Number 6,076,108 and the Abramson reference with Patent Number 6,539,494 are suggested. The other references cited teach numerous other ways to update and maintain session data throughout a network, thus a close review of them is suggested.
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Stephan Willett whose telephone number is (703) 308-5230. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia, can be reached on (703) 305-4003. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7239.

9. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9605.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Willett".

Stephan Willett

Patent Examiner

July 6, 2004